

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3463

UNCLAS GUAYAQUIL 1219

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (SIMON, LINDA PESANTES)

SUBJ: DEPARTURE DIFFICULTIES OF LINDA PESANTES SIMON

REF: TELECON WALTER CLARK-KELLER OCTOBER 29, 1974

1. INFORM CONGRESSMAN GILMAN. MRS. SIMON CALLED AT CONGEN OCTOBER 30 IN RESPONSE OUR INVITATION. ENTERED ECUADOR ON EXPIRED ECUADOREAN PASSPORT AND UNABLE RENEW IT FOR DEPARTURE WITHOUT ECUADOREAN IDENTITY CARD, WHICH SHE HAS LOST. CANNOT READILY OBTAIN NEW IDENTITY CARD BECAUSE MARRIAGE IN U.S. HAS NOT BEEN REGISTERED IN ECUADOR. THIS IS TYPICAL BUREACRATIC COMPLICATION WHICH CAN BE CLEARED UP BUT TAKES TIME. WE GAVE MRS. SIMON LETTER ATTESTING US LEGAL RESIDENCE, WITH WHICH BRANIFF AIRLINES WILL ATTEMPT SECURE NORMAL PERMISSION TO LEAVE. IF SUCCESSFUL, MRS. SIMON PLANS RETURN TO U.S. WITHIN NEXT TWO WEEKS.

2. MRS. SIMON MYSTIFIED BY ALLEGATIONS MADE BY HER SISTER JANET D'AMATO. SHE HAD NOT VISITED CONGEN BEFORE, BUT BELIEVES SISTER MAY HAVE IN CONNECTION WITH OTHER PROBLEM. ALSO HAS HEARD NOTHING ABOUT NEED TO PAY FINE. NO BASIS TO STATEMENT THAT "ECUADOR IS NOT ISSUING PASSPORTS".

3. FYI ASIDE FROM IRRITATION WITH DOCUMENTATION, MRS. SIMON IN GOOD SPIRITS AND APPARENTLY ENJOYING VISIT, INCLUDING TRIPS TO OTHER CITIES WITH REPORTEDLY "COMPLETELY INCAPACITATED" FATHER. WILL ADVISE OF FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.
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